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Sua Sponte Screening per 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)

Notwithstanding payment of any filing fee or portion thereof, a complaint filed by any person proceeding IFP pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a) is subject to a mandatory and *sua sponte* review and dismissal by the court to the extent it is frivolous, malicious, fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or seeks monetary relief from a defendant immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B); *Calhoun v. Stahl*, 254 F.3d 845, 845 (9th Cir. 2001) ("[T]he provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B) are not limited to prisoners."); *Lopez v. Smith*, 203 F.3d 1122, 1126-27 (9th Cir. 2000) (*en banc*). Prior to its amendment by the Prison Litigation Reform Act, the former 28 U.S.C. § 1915(d) permitted *sua sponte* dismissal of only frivolous and malicious claims. *Id.* at 1130. The newly enacted 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2), however, mandates that the court reviewing a complaint filed pursuant to the IFP provisions of section 1915 make and rule on its own motion to dismiss before directing that the complaint be served by the U.S. Marshal pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(c)(2). *Lopez*, 203 F.3d 1127 ("[S]ection 1915(e) not only permits, but requires a district court to dismiss an in forma pauperis complaint that fails to state a claim."); *see also Barren v. Harrington*, 152 F.3d 1193, 1194 (9th Cir. 1998) (noting the "the language of § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii) parallels the language of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6).").

As currently pleaded, Plaintiff's complaint is subject to *sua sponte* dismissal under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(e)(2)(B)(ii) because it fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted. Because "it is absolutely clear that the deficiencies of the complaint could not be cured by amendment," the Court dismisses the complaint with prejudice. *Franklin v. Murphy*, 745 F.2d 1221, 1228 n.9 (9th Cir. 1984).

Conclusion and Order

For these reasons, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Plaintiff's Motion to Proceed IFP is **GRANTED** and the Complaint is **DISMISSED** with prejudice for failure to state a claim.¹

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: March 21, 2012

HON. DANA M. SABRAW United States District Judge

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¹ In light of the Court's dismissal of Plaintiff's Complaint, the Court denies Plaintiff's request for appointment of counsel as moot.